GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2206
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Appointment of State Commissioners
Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Commissioners have been appointed in all States of the country under Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Commissioners in the States during last three years and the total number of complaints which have been disposed of for providing assistance to the beneficiaries, State-wise;

(d) the nature of complaints generally received; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure effective empowerment of physically disabled persons?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) As per Section 60 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, every State Government may, by notification appoint a Commissioner for persons with disabilities for the purpose of this Act. As per the details received from the Office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, 35 States/UTs have appointed Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities either full time basis or given additional charge in their respective States/UTs. Details of the Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities in State/UT's is at Annexure-I.

(c) As per the information received from the Office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, details of the complaints received and disposed of by the Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities in States/UTs during the last three years (2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16) is at Annexure-II.

(d) Nature of complaints received in the Office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities consists of employment (3% reservation)/service matters, matter relating to education, conduct of examination, disability certificates, accessibility, benefit of Government schemes/programmes etc.

(e) The PwD Act, 1995 provides various entitlements for persons with disabilities and mandates the appropriate Governments for taking measures for their empowerment and inclusion in the society. The Government also implements various schemes for the empowerment of persons with disabilities. The important schemes are:

(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP): Under ADIP Scheme the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the needy disabled persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

(ii) Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (SIPDA): Under this scheme, assistance is provided to State Governments and to autonomous organizations/Institutions under Central or State Governments, for various activities relating to implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, particularly for creation of barrier free environment for persons with disabilities.

(iii) The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities implements a Scheme, namely, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for their projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels.

(iv) Scholarship schemes for students with disabilities such as Pre-matric, Post-matric, Top Class Education, National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship

(vi) Accessible India Campaign has been launched on 03.12.2015 with a view to create awareness and provide barrier free environment for persons with disabilities.

(vii) The Government has launched the national action plan for skill development to impart skill training to persons with disabilities to enhance their scope of employment.

Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities takes steps to safeguard the rights and facilities made available to persons with disabilities under Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 or non-implementation of laws, rules, bye-laws, regulations, executive orders, guidelines or instructions made or issued by the appropriate Governments and the local authorities for the welfare and protection of rights of persons with disabilities, and take up the matter with the appropriate authorities on receipt of any complaint or on its own motion. CCPD also reviews implementation of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 by the State Governments from time to time.

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